



Coastal Vets

COASTAL VETERINARY SERVICES LTD.

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CLINIC OPENING HOURS

Opunake
Mon-Fri: 8am—5pm
Saturday: 9am—12pm

Kaponga
Mon-Fri: 8.30am - 4.30pm
After hours for emergencies

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SUMMER & YOUR PETS

With the summer season fast approaching, we all become tempted to give our pets a Christmas or New Years treat, it's important to remember there are a few foods to stay away from.

Chocolate A nice treat for you but please don't leave it sitting around as the smell is very attractive to dogs. Chocolate poisoning can be fatal only 200g of dark chocolate can kill a small dog. Call us if your dog has got into your chocolate stash.



Macadamia Nuts Another treat we enjoy at this time of year. Even small amounts can cause weakness and difficulty walking, with muscle tremors, and panting.

Xylitol an artificial sweetener found in an increasing number of sugar-free foods like lollies and chewing gum, it can lead to dangerously low blood sugar in dogs along with liver damage - and can be fatal. Xylitol is referenced as food additive code number 967 on food labels.



Fatty Foods - the fat off the ham isn't a good treat for your pet.

Raisins So no Christmas cake for your dog!

Corn Cobs Make sure your dog can't access the compost bin! These cause blockages that result in surgery.

Fruit Stones and Pips Can cause poisoning and the stones can intestinal obstruction.

Others include Alcohol, Bread dough, Avocado, Onions and garlic





ITCHY SCRATCHY FLEAS



Summer time and the warmer weather also brings with it the rise of flea infestations. Fleas are small parasites that attach and pierce skin to suck blood. They move around by crawling and jumping. Most flea infestations originate from the environment – not other animals. Control involves treatment of both animal and environment.

Life stages:

Adult – about 5% of the flea population, these cause irritation through biting, and each female flea can lay up to 50 eggs per day

Eggs and larvae – found in dark places such as the base of carpet, under the house, in the folds of bedding, and they can survive winter like this

Pupae (cocoon) – stay in this for 1 week to months over winter, and hatch when host-like triggers are present (eg. movement, noise, heat)

Treat the animal:

Frontline® Plus – kills the adult fleas and stops development of eggs, larvae and pupae, this product lasts up to 6-8 weeks, and, and should be applied 48hrs before water immersion. *Frontline® Spray* also available as a 'top-up' for high-challenge situations.

Advocate® – kills existing and emerging adult fleas and larvae, this product lasts up to 4 weeks, and it also functions to remove intestinal worms (except tapeworms).

Frequent bathing of pets may reduce the persistence of a topical product. Some products are poisonous if used on a different species.

Nexguard® - Chewable tablets for dogs. Kills existing fleas. Lasts up to 4 weeks and can be good for dogs that swim or need bathing a lot.

Seresto® - Flea collar, kills adult fleas and lasts up to 8 months.



Treat the environment:

Regular vacuuming and disposal of the bag, hot washing pet bedding and hang non-washable items (eg. pillows) in direct sunlight frequently, ensure treatment of other animals in household, 'flea bombing' the house (ensure pets are out of the house) eg. *Indorex®*.

In most animals, itching and scratching are the main signs, but severe infestation can cause significant blood loss and anaemia. Some animals develop an allergy to flea saliva and will scratch or wash until they remove the fur from the area – cats will often do this in private.

Even very small infestations cause severe irritation in these pets and the damage they do to themselves is severe. In these cases, pets may develop secondary infections which also require treatment.

